

Legislative Updates of interest for Higher Education Week of Jan. 25 - 29, 2010

(Yellow highlighted text is hot-linked to source.)

In the House –

During the week, the House amended the Senate amendment to [H.4087](#), relating to the Greenville Technical College Commission, and sent the bill back to the Senate. [S.517](#), a Joint Resolution relating to state agencies and implementation of fee increases, was received from the Senate and referred to the Ways and Means Committee for consideration. [H.4478](#), the South Carolina Economic Development Competitiveness Act, was introduced and referred to Ways and Means. Among its many provisions to provide tax incentives and other considerations relating to economic development, the bill includes an amendment to the Centers of Economic Excellence program (CoEE) to provide a portion of program funds to the Department of Commerce for allocation by the Secretary of Commerce.

During the week, the Budget Subcommittee on Higher Education, Technical and Cultural Resources heard from Francis Marion University, South Carolina State University, the University Center of Greenville, and cultural agencies. Additionally, the subcommittee reviewed provisos. Members of the Higher Education, Technical and Cultural Resources budget subcommittee include Representatives Limehouse (chair), Barfield, Merrill, and Neilson.

In the Senate –

The Senate gave third reading to [S.517](#), a Joint Resolution relating to state agencies and implementation of fee increases, and sent the bill to the House for consideration. Also, adopted and sent to the House was [S.1089](#), a Concurrent Resolution to set the election of members of college and university boards of trustees to be held in a joint session on April 28. The Senate did not concur with the House amendments to [H.4087](#), a bill relating to the Greenville Technical College Area Commission, and the bill will go to conference committee to work out the differences between the House and Senate.

Consideration of bills relating to changes to the state's reserve funds and budget process continued. [S.1](#) to change the state's budget process and implement a budget stabilization fund was given second reading. [S.1085](#) (similar [H.3395](#)) and [H.3396](#) (similar [S.1086](#)) which would provide for amendments to the state code and constitution with regard to provisions for the state's General Reserve Fund were amended and carried over for consideration.

*** Bill numbers are linked to the SC General Assembly page and the link goes to the most recent version of the bill.*

Reminder: The above report is not intended to be all inclusive. For additional information on legislation referenced above and other legislation relating to higher education, see CHE's website at <http://www.che.sc.gov/InfoCntr/LegislativeSession09.htm>. Detailed information on the 2010 Session of the General Assembly may be access at www.scstatehouse.gov or from links included on CHE's website.